

BIG SANDY NEWS.

Art, literature, news, and fiction.

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M. H. COOKSON, PUBLISHER

HEAVY LOSS.

Peach Orchard Suffers From Destructive Fire.

The Coal Company's Store and Five Dwellings Consumed by the Flames.

Peach Orchard, a mining town about 21 miles from this city, was visited by the most destructive fire in its history last Friday. The large brick store building of the Peach Orchard Coal Co., which owns and operates the famous Peach Orchard mines, was with almost its entire stock of miscellaneous goods, entirely destroyed. The residence occupied by Charley Wilbur, Bert Price, Walter Talbert, and Gus West and one other house, five in all, were burned to the ground. Very little was saved of the contents of these dwellings. The loss caused by this fire has not been ascertained, but it is known to be very heavy, and it is said that there was no insurance. The company always carried a large stock, and most of it is in ashes.

Bert Price was the bank boss and Mrs. West kept the company boarding house. The fire originated in the dwelling house of Charley Wilbur and was caused by that "fatal spring of woes unnumbered," a defective flue.

Observance of the Centenary.

The Bible Study Circle of Louisa celebrated the three hundred anniversary of the publication of the King James version of the English Bible last Sunday evening. The exercises were held in the N. E. Church, South, in presence of a large audience. The programme published in News last week was presented. After a few introductory remarks by Dr. G. W. Wroten, interesting and appropriate addresses and papers were made and read by Prof. E. M. Kenison, M. S. Burns, the Rev. Dr. Stanford and the Rev. W. L. Reid. A pleasing feature of the evening was the music furnished by the choir of the church.

Floyd Brewer Killing Utter.

Recently the News copied an article from a Huntington paper stating that Floyd Brewer, of Warfield, was shot and killed, while engaged in a quarrel. B. J. Chaffin, the traveling salesman, says the report is not only untrue, but that nothing has happened upon which such a report could be based. The story is false from beginning to end. Mr. Brewer is a prosperous and highly respected citizen. The report has annoyed him considerably and was the cause of holding up the shipment of a lot of goods he had ordered. We gladly make the correction and regret that we did not learn of the falsity of the report before publishing it.

Engineer Ground to Death.

A most horrible accident occurred at the pumping station of the Catlettsburg, Kenova and Ceredo Water Works Company, located in the South Side, Catlettsburg when Thomas Bailey, night engineer by some means unknown was caught in a fly wheel and his body ground to pieces, before it was discovered. Mr. Bailey had been employed at the plant since the middle of last April, and was formerly engineer at the Electric light plant at Ruston. He was about 40 years of age.

DEATH OF HIS SISTER.

Mr. A. M. Wheeler, of this city, received Wednesday the sad news of the sudden death of one of his sisters, who lived near Salyerville. Accompanied by a brother from England, Mr. Wheeler immediately left for the Whaley home in Madison county.

Dr. Bromley, the N. and W. surgeon, who attended to his injuries, reports the condition of A. M. Blake, the signal man, who was hurt last Sunday, to be much improved.

Death of an Infant.

Belle, the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Cummings, died Friday night last, after an illness caused by whooping cough and some of its complications. On Sunday afternoon, after appropriate services conducted at the residence by the Rev. Dr. Stanford, the little body was carried to beautiful Pine Hill and laid away in the narrow house appointed to all the living. Very many relatives and friends manifested by their presence and offerings of blossoms rich and rare their sympathy for the bereaved. Only those who have loved and lost know how even the death of a babe of such tender age can wrench the heart, and those know how the loss of baby Belle is felt, but the bereft ones know that she is "safe in the arms" of the tender Shepherd, never to suffer again.

Representative Fields Speaks.

Representative Fields, of Kentucky, made his maiden speech in the House last week and got the attention of members with his opening remarks.

The following extract from his speech is an epigram:

"Sixteen years ago," he began, "there was a wedding. The bridegroom was Mr. Republican Party and the bride was Miss Money. The couple took up their abode in the Capitol. Unfortunately no legitimate children were born to the union. The couple therupon adopted three sons, John D. Andrew and J. Pierpont, and these three sons, like most adopted children, have been running their parents ever since."

MORE RAILROAD TALK.

Official Statement About Chesapeake & Ohio Matters.

Concerning the railroad company recently chartered by officials of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway to build a branch of that system, an officer of the company furnishes the following:

"Charters have been obtained in Kentucky and Virginia for a railroad from a connection with the Big Sandy branch of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Co. in Kentucky at the confluence of the Letcher and Russell forks of Big Sandy River, extending up Letcher fork 23.8 miles to the boundary line between the States of Virginia and Kentucky. This constitutes the Letcher River Railroad Co. of Kentucky; the line then extends on up Letcher Fork 14 miles to Grundy, Buchanan county, Virginia, this part being covered by the Virginia charter of the Letcher River Railroad Co. Surveys have been made and maps of location filed, and if expectations are realized the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway will become the owner of the entire capital stock of the two companies.

"The character of the country is rough; the maximum degree of curvature will be moderate, and the grade of the road will descend gently, following the slope of the river from Grundy to Big Sandy. No contracts have been let, nor can I now give any information as to the date when the work will begin."

As heretofore noted, this line will cross the mountains several miles north of the Brooks of the Big Sandy River, through which pass. It has been expected that a connection would some day be made between the Chesapeake & Ohio and the Carolina, Clinchfield & Ohio railroads. It will traverse a rich timber and mineral region. Whether this construction means that a junction will be made with the Clinchfield by a route different from that already chosen does not yet appear.

The Chesapeake and Ohio, according to a report from New York, is negotiating to secure control of the Clinchfield road by lease, which, if agreed upon, will, it is said, result in the construction of the long-projected extension of the Clinchfield from Danie, Va., to Elkhorn City, Ky., on the C. and O. about 40 miles. This would necessitate some very heavy work, the engineering problems presented being, to quote an official, as difficult as any on the route through the mountains of North Carolina. When the two roads are connected, they doubtless will be in a few years.

mountains of North Carolina. When the two roads are connected, they doubtless will be in a few years they will form a route from the Great Lakes down to Spartanburg, S. C., which is now the Southern terminus of the Clinchfield but that company has long projected an extension to Columbia and Charleston, S. C., which may then be built to obtain a seaport terminal south of Hatteras.

Adams Will Recover.

The News has never before been forced to apologize for as bad an error as one made last week in reporting the shooting affair that occurred on Saturday we said that Adams was killed. Very soon after Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Franklin Thomas announced the marriage of their daughter Rosalie.

Mr. George Fletcher Gammell, Wednesdays, May the tenth, nineteen hundred and eleven, Cincinnati.

At Home
Cincinnati, Ky.

The foregoing announcement tells its own delightful story, a story of the culmination of an attachment which began in Louisa, the birthplace of the bride and groom. They were only children when the Billing began, and as they approached the period of young manhood and womanhood it ripened into a love which has united them for what we all expect and desire they will have—a long and happy life.

"George and Rosalie"—how sweet the name sounds!—were married Wednesday evening at half past seven o'clock, and at nine they were crowned bride and groom. They will tour the country, visiting interesting places, and the middle of June will be at home in Cincinnati. The parents of the high contracting parties were ignorant of what was to come and were not informed of the date until Monday last. While it was "so sudden" it was not unexpected and the parental blessing accompanied the nuptials.

The marriage of Rosalie Thomas and George Gammell is in every aspect fitting. The bride is a remarkably handsome and accomplished girl, beautiful and sweet. Her remote ancestry on her mother's side began in Louisa, her mother being a daughter of the late Judge John W. Hix and her great grandfather Judge James Hix, the father of Mr. H. F. Thomas, Chief Engineer in the U. S. Engineers office, Cincinnati. He is one of the best known members of the U. S. Civil Corps of engineers in the country. George Gammell was born in this city. His father, Mr. G. W. Gammell, formerly of this city, is one of the most prominent men in Catlettsburg. Mr. G. W. Gammell was born in this city, his father being Dr. S. J. Hix, in his day the best known physician in the Sandy Valley. George is a graduate of the Virginia Military Institute, at Lexington, Va. He is a member of the general insurance firm of Gammell, Everett and George Gammell, doing a large business. He is a young man of good business ability and excellent family, very popular in a large circle of friends. The News knows of no young couple who began life's partnership with more prospect. Their home in Louisa, currently with that of Mr. and Mrs. George F. Gammell, may have full fruition.

Fire on Morgan's Creek.

James H. Sparks and his father, Cole Sparks, of Morgan's Creek, suffered considerable loss a few days ago from fire. A large barn and 2000 feet of lumber were destroyed and it was with great difficulty that the dwelling house was saved. The heat ruined the vegetation in a flourishing garden near the house.

The fire was communicated to the barn by sparks from a neighbor's farm, where brush was being burned.

AT LOUISA SEPT. 6TH.

Annual Session W. Va. Conference, N. E. Church South.

The following telegram was received by the News shortly after the paper had gone to press last Thursday:

Parkersburg, W. Va., May 18th.—H. C. Morrison, Bishop. Date September 6.—W. L. Reid.

It means that the Annual Meeting of the Western Virginia Conference of the N. E. Church South, will be held in this city this year, beginning September 6th, and that Bishop H. C. Morrison will preside.

This means much to our people. Our citizen are a race given to hospitality, and no matter how much it may be taxed the good old town is equal to the occasion. It's much too soon to wonder "what will have," but that is not really the wonder. It will be how on earth my body of guests can possibly get away with what we are sure to provide. "We're glad to have brothers and sisters—drive on your horses, catch and help yourselves."

C. and G. Engineers C. T. Bliley, who was recently killed by a wreck near Hinton, was one of the four engineers who married four dams. All the men lost their lives by railroad accidents, and all the others are living.

THOMAS GUNNELL.

Natives of Louisa Married at Cincinnati.

Miss Rosalie Thomas and Mr. George F. Gammell Wedded at the Home of Her Parents.

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